CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Tulare Unit

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Battalion Chief **DATE:** 11/29/2016

559-635-8206

Lifting of Burn Permit Suspension, Tulare County

Visalia- Effective Friday, December 2, 2016 at 8:00 AM, the burn permit suspension in Tulare County State Responsibility Area (SRA) will be lifted for hazard reduction burning. CAL FIRE Tulare Unit Chief Marc Hafner, is formally cancelling the burn permit suspension for all SRA areas and advises that those property owners can now obtain a valid burn permit at their local CAL FIRE station. While cooler temperatures have helped to diminish the threat of wildfire, we are still in our fifth year of drought. Property owners and residents are asked to use caution while conducting hazard abatement burns, follow all guidelines provided, and maintain control of the fire at all times. Individuals can be held civilly and/or criminally liable for allowing a fire to escape their control and/or burn onto neighboring property.

For information on complying with local burn requirements, contact the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District at 559-230-6062 or visit the district online at www.valleyair.org. Or visit the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov.

Residents wishing to burn MUST verify it is a permissive burn day prior to burning.

Pile Burning Requirements

- Only dry, natural vegetative material such as leaves, pine needles and tree trimmings may be burned.
- The burning of trash, painted wood or other debris is not allowed.
- Do **NOT** burn on windy days.
- Piles should be no larger than four feet in diameter and in height. You can add to pile as it burns down.
- Clear a 10 foot diameter down to bare soil around your piles.
- Have a shovel and a water source nearby.
- An adult is required to be in attendance of the fire at all times.

CAL FIRE Unit Chief Marc Hafner stated, "Safe residential pile burning of forest residue by landowners is a crucial tool in reducing fire hazards. State, Federal and Local land management and fire agencies will also be utilizing this same window of opportunity to conduct prescribed burns aimed at improving forest health on private and public lands".

An address-searchable map of the State Responsibility Area can be found at http://www.firepreventionfee.org/sraviewer_launch.php.